



PRESS RELEASE

OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN DAN BURTON  
FIFTH DISTRICT, INDIANA

2185 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-2276 FAX (202) 225-0016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
EMBARGOED UNTIL: March 1, 2006

CONTACT: STEPHEN E. SCHATZ  
(202) 225-2276

**CHAIRMAN DAN BURTON ANNOUNCES HIS STRONG  
SUPPORT OF THE PUERTO RICO DEMOCRACY ACT**  
*-JOINS CONGRESSMAN LUIS G. FORTUNO AS ORIGINAL CO-SPONSOR-*

(Washington, D.C.) - Congressman Dan Burton [R-IN-05], Chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives' International Relations Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, released the following statement in strong support of Congressman Luis G. Fortuno's Puerto Rico Democracy Act of 2006:

"As a Senior Member of the House International Relations Committee, I completely support the Puerto Rico Democracy Act of 2006. The bill is democratically-inspired, as well as Constitutionally-sound. It will provide the proud citizens of Puerto Rico with the opportunity to determine the fate of their great island through Federally-sanctioned plebiscites.

"President George W. Bush's Task Force on Puerto Rico's Status and Congressman Fortuno deserve a lot of credit for spearheading this legislative effort on Puerto Rico's future status and I am happy to stand with them and encourage the bill's immediate adoption.

"The people of Puerto Rico will finally have a chance to voice their opinion on their island's future - either in support of remaining a United States territory or in support of pursuing a Constitutionally-viable path toward permanent, non-territorial status, be it Statehood or Separate Sovereignty. Either way, the bill will pave the way for the people of Puerto Rico to simply state whether they themselves want to continue the status-quo or pursue an alternative approach.

"I strongly support the growth of democracy throughout the World, be it in Afghanistan or Iraq, and therefore I am a strong advocate and supporter of the Puerto Rico Democracy Act of 2006. The bill will finally set into motion the self-determined future of the great people of Puerto Rico."